Surviving

On the Web

October Web Sites

As a tie-in with this month's feature article on the topic of **Document Assembly**, we have combed the Internet for sites at which legal forms and templates are made available, either free of charge or for a reasonable fee. Although all of the sites listed below are U.S. - based, the majority of the forms available at each location can easily be adapted for use in Canadian practice.

FindLaw Forms – links to dozens of sites that offer forms relating to almost every conceivable aspect of the practice of law. Located at: www.findlaw.com/16forms/index.html

Business Forms Sources – sponsored by the Texas Law Librarians, this site offers a wealth of links to many other sites at which legal forms are available. Located at http://ccwf.cc.utexas.edu/~suefaw/buslegal.html

CataLaw: Legal Topics – major source of links to and international forms on matters as diverse as general commercial law, advertising and media law, environmental law, cyber rights and elder and disability law. Located at: http://CataLaw.com/topics/Forms.shtml.

The 'Lectric Library – includes business forms that relate to corporate matters, real estate, employment and wills, and law practice forms that relate to general practice management and litigation issues. Includes documents such as: client interview forms, fee agreements, letters to clients re: representation and litigation witness and general checklists. Forms are completed by saving them to your hard drive and filling in the blanks. Located at: www.lectlaw.com/form.html.

American Arbitration Association Forms – includes forms for developing a corporate ADR policy, ADR in construction law, commercial ADR and international ADR. Located at: www.adr.org/focus_areas.html

VersusLaw Online Legal Forms - multitude of available forms, relating to litigation and general transactional matters such as loans, leases, assignments and indemnification. Located at: www.versuslaw.com/versuslaw/forms/index.html

Web*Law Partner - offering forms re: commercial transactions; partnerships, limited partnerships and joint ventures; mergers and acquisitions, real estate; securities and SEC filings; intellectual property; computers and software; employment and consulting; and business organizations. Located at: www.legal-businessforms.com.

Books

Surviving the Information Age

Jim Carroll, co-author of the best-selling Canadian Internet Handbook and Canadian Internet Directory, has written a thoughtful, informative and inspiring new book, called "Surviving the Information Age", targeted to those who have not yet embraced the new technology and those still intimidated by their computers.

The author - born at the tail-end of the baby boom and sensitive to the implications of technology for the generations that were born before computers became common-place - has spent the last several years as a motivational speaker, helping people and organizations understand and cope with the human impact of technology.

The book is entertaining and easy to read, and is filled with vignettes, humorous anecdotes and insightful and inspirational quotes from people from all walks of life.

It includes chapters such as: "Do You Need to Worry About the Wired World" - addressing the concerns of workers contemplating the loss or marginalization of their jobs due to technology's ever-expanding reach; "What is Holding Us Back" and "A Glance Behind the Glass" – an attempt to explain the source of and to help people overcome their fear and mistrust of computers; "Shopping in a State of Confusion" – confirming that shopping for a computer is, indeed, an intimidating experience for the uninitiated and offering helpful tips and insights; "The Promise of Technology" – a look at our expectations for technology over last 40 years; and "Rising Above the Crowd" – strategies for dealing successfully with the Information Age.

Throughout the book, readers are offered the perspective of recent history - real - life examples taken from newspapers, magazines, television and other media of the 50's, 60's and 70's - that underscore the importance of technology in our lives since the second world war, as well as our love-hate relationship with it.

This book should be on the list of anyone who feels unable to take the first steps in the direction of computer literacy, as well as those who have begun to experience the frustrations of living in today's "wired world."

Surviving the Information Age is published by Prentice Hall Canada. It sells for $14.95 and is available at bookstores across Canada. Additional information can be obtained by calling Prentice Hall at 1-800-567-3800 or by visiting www.phcanada.com.